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102nd YEAR NO. 42

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026

PHONE: (216) 441-2141 • EMAIL: NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

FREE

Gloria Stoker honored with proclamation marking 101st birthday

Gloria Stoker celebrated her 101st birthday a day early last week during festivities at the city of Bedford's Summer Concert Series as she listened to one of her favorite bands, the Chardon Polka Band, and received a proclamation from Village of Oakwood Mayor Erica L. Nikolic.

Gloria has made Oakwood her home for more than 26 years and was a proud resident of Bedford Heights for 60 years before that. She and her husband, Phillip Stoker, raised their four children, Donald, Phillip Jr., Robert and Deborah Franchovak in Bedford Heights, where they built lifelong friendships and a lasting connection to the city of Bedford, where over the years they attended music festivals, community celebrations and special events.

Gloria Stoker was born Gloria Chesnick on July 9, 1925, in Manville, New Jersey, to Stanley Carl Chesnick and Mollie Chesnick, who in the 1930s emigrated from the former Yugoslavia to Cleveland, Ohio, alongside their lifelong friends, the Kuhars.

Throughout her long life Gloria has embraced music and dancing and became a regular at the Slovenian National Home, Karlin Hall, SNPJ Farm, and attended concerts by some of her favorite bands, including Walley's Polka Chips, the Happy Timers and, of course, the Chardon Polka Band.

The concluding portion of Gloria's proclamation presented her last week by Mayor Nikolic was very special. It reads: "Now, celebrating 101 remarkable years, Gloria Stoker continues to inspire all who know her through her optimism, resilience, kindness and unwavering belief that life's greatest joys are found in family, friendship, music, laughter and sharing special moments with others, serving as an extraordinary example of a life well-lived."



Shown above, seated, with her proclamation from Oakwood Village in celebration of her 101st birthday is Gloria Stoker. Behind her, at right, is Oakwood Mayor Erica L. Nikolic who made the presentation before the Chardon Polka Band began playing last week during Bedford's Summer Concert Series. *Photo courtesy of the Chardon Polka Band's Facebook page, where more photos of the event can be found.*

Bedford Council votes tax incentives to Hikma for job creation, retention

By Ellen Psenicka

At its Monday, July 6th meeting last week, Bedford Council voted to adopt a Job Creation and Retention Program Grant for Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA LLC annually for 15 years, "in order to provide incentives to create, retain and expand employment opportunities with the city of Bedford without utilizing tax revenues or impacting negatively upon the local school system," the legislation states.

City Manager Mike Mallis explained that this grant to Hikma will give the company a 40% rebate on its income tax liability, with a cap of \$300,000 annually for the 15-year term of the grant. Mallis noted that the city will still be collecting approximately \$500,000 per year when Hikma's hiring is completed.

Other legislation passed

The following legislation was also approved by Bedford Council at Monday's meeting:

- Reappointment of Denise Lachowski to the Civil Service Commission for a four-year term.
 - Reappointment of Rich Palcisko to the Civil Service Commission for a four-year term.
 - Approving and accepting the proposed tax budget for the year 2027.
 - Authorizing the city manager to apply for, accept and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund agreement on behalf of the city for planning, design and/or construction of an upgraded version of the city's wastewater facilities.
 - Authorizing a contract with Cargill for rock salt for the 2026-27 winter.
 - Applying for 2027 Community Development Block Grant and Community Development Supplemental Grant funds for a total of \$200,000 through the Cuyahoga County Department of Development. Mallis said if the funds are granted, the city is discussing using the money to expand parking for Bedford Commons.
 - Entering into a contract with CATTS Construction for the Greencroft Road Water Main Replacement and Resurfacing Project. This project includes additional work for the replacement of the existing water main on Greencroft Rd., from Broadway Ave. to the dead end east of Dewhurst Ave.
- The administration and engineer recommend installing a new 8-inch cement-lined ductile iron water main along with replacement of service connections and hydrant assemblies, temporary water service during construction, roadway resurfacing, and spot repairs to the storm and sanitary sewer system, at a cost of \$2,243,440.30.

- Entering into a contract with GPD Group for services regarding the Greencroft Road Resurfacing and Waterline Replacement Project, at a cost not to exceed \$166,260.00.
- Entering into a contract with Atwell's Police and Fire Equipment Co. to purchase Glock firearms for the Bedford Police Department. The city will purchase 37 Glock firearms from Atwell's as it has offered the most reasonable price at a total cost of \$32,844.35. Mallis said it has been five years since the BPD had new service weapons.
- Making additional appropriations for current expenditures of the city for 2026.
- Entering into a contract with Advanced Irrigation Systems for the installation of an irrigation system for the plantings at the Splash Park in Bedford Commons, at a cost not to exceed \$29,350.00.

• Authorizing additional design and construction services by GPD Group associated with the Wastewater Treatment network upgrade. Mallis said the project will run through 2028.

• Contracting with Montrose Ford to purchase a 2026 Ford F150 responder for the police department.

• Contracting with Ganley Automotive of Aurora to purchase six 2027 Dodge Durangos for the police department, and contracting with Hall Public Safety to outfit them. Mallis noted that the Ford 150 and Durango purchases were a result of the hail storm damage to city vehicles on April 15, 2026.

G.H. Council reschedules meetings

Garfield Heights Council met briefly Monday and voted to reschedule its regular council meeting until the next day, Tuesday, July 14, at 7 p.m., due to "unforeseen travel circumstances" affecting the attendance of council members, as noted in an email from Law Director Milko Cecez.

The caucus meeting was held on July 14, at 6:30 p.m., and the Board of Control meeting was also rescheduled to July 14, at 6:15 p.m.

See next week's Neighborhood News for council coverage.

Cuyahoga County announces over \$5.2 million in road improvement grants in its 5/50 funding program

Cuyahoga County is working to make roads smoother and safer for residents and repairs more affordable for municipalities. Through the County Road 50/50 Funding Program, more than \$5.2 million will support roadway improvements in 22 communities, pending Cuyahoga County Council approval.

The projects totaling nearly \$17.7 million will enhance safety, improve communities and strengthen local infrastructure, according to a news release from Cuyahoga County Communications.

Legislation for the 2027-2028 awards will be introduced to County Council on Tuesday, July 21, at its regular meeting.

Communities in The Neighborhood News readership area set to receive 50/50 grants from the county and the streets to be improved are: Bedford (Solon Rd.); Bedford Heights (Bartlett Rd.); Garfield Heights (Granger Rd.); Independence (Rockside Rd.); Maple Heights (Schreiber Rd.); and Newburgh Heights (Harvard Ave.).

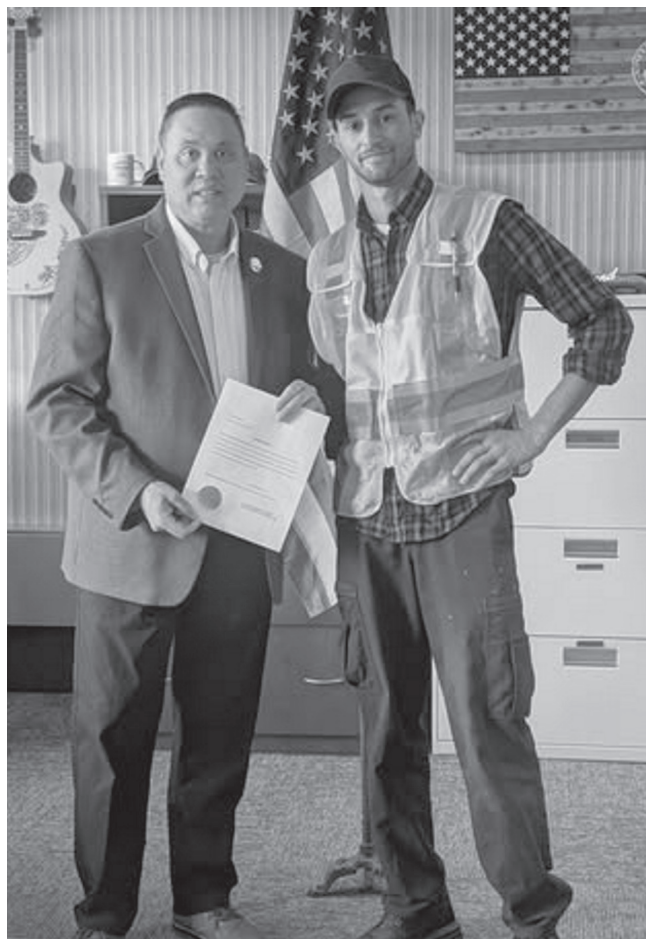
Legislation for the 2027-2028 awards will be introduced to County Council on Tuesday, July 21, at its regular meeting.

"Our roads keep our communities connected, helping residents reach jobs, schools and essential services," said Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronayne. "We are committed to supporting our municipalities in providing safer, more reliable roadways because well-maintained infrastructure is essential to daily life and to the overall quality of life in Cuyahoga County."

The program helps municipalities cover the costs for infrastructure projects by offering a 50/50 cost split between the county and the municipality, up to a maximum county match of \$250,000. The program accepts project proposals every two years, and this selection covers projects planned for construction in 2027-2028.

"Our goal is to work alongside municipalities to identify projects that will have the greatest impact on public safety, traffic flow and mobility," said Cuyahoga County Director of Public Works Michael Dever. "In doing so we are able to move projects forward that are most beneficial to residents and visitors."

New G.H. animal warden



Edgar Nelson, at right, was officially sworn in by Garfield Heights Mayor Matt Burke on Monday, July 6, as the city's new animal warden. As posted on the city's Facebook page, "We wish you great success in your new role and look forward to the positive impact you'll make for our residents and their furry friends."

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- 5 PLASTIC Bottles/Jugs** Empty & Rinse, Replace the cap

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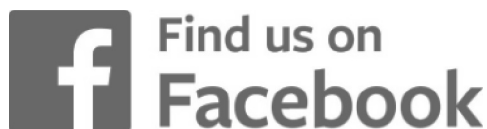
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Cuyahoga Heights, Independence,

Valley View, Maple Heights,

Bedford and Bedford Heights

LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Bedford (Bedford Heights/ Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the FREE programs coming up at the Bedford Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 70 Columbus Rd., Bedford, Ohio 44146. For more information, or to register for any program, please call 440-439-4997.

Summer Lunch -Kids ages 18 & younger, 12 - 1 p.m. Monday through Friday during the summer we collaborate with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank to provide children with free healthy lunches at select branches. The Summer Lunch program is open to all kids ages 18 and younger. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Storytime in the Park with Bedford Library, Saturdays, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 10 a.m. Enjoy stories, songs and fingerplays in the fresh air! Families are encouraged to stay and play in the park! In case of inclement weather, Storytime will move indoors to the Bedford Library. For questions or weather updates, please call the Branch at 440-439-4997. 110 Ellenwood Ave, Bedford, OH 44146

Preschool Club -Ages 3 & 4 (not attending formal preschool), Wednesday, Aug. 5, 10:30 a.m. Your preschooler is ready to learn! Join us for a 5-week club for caregivers and children ages 3-4 not in formal preschool. Connect with other families for fun and playful learning activities. **MUST REGISTER**

A.M.C Club-Anime/Animation-Manga-Comics -For Teens, Wednesday, Aug. 5, 7 p.m. A monthly hangout for teens who enjoy anime, manga and graphic novels! We watch shows, trade recommendations, eat snacks and discuss story & art styles. **MUST REGISTER**

Thinking with AI -Adults, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6:30 p.m. This session gives participants a practical look at how today's AI tools can support learning, creativity, work and problem-solving. We will walk through real examples, explore safe and responsible use, and practice simple techniques anyone can apply at home, school or the

workplace. No technical background required, just curiosity. Led by Rocco Cuffari, founder of Humindful. **MUST REGISTER**

Ellenwood Book Discussion -Adults, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2 p.m. Join fellow book lovers for a lively discussion on the second Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m., at the Ellenwood Recreation Center in Bedford.

Pick up a copy of the discussion book at either the Ellenwood Recreation Center, 124 Ellenwood Ave., Bedford, or the Bedford Library one month before each meeting. August book: "Berry Pickers" by Amanda Peters.

Cozy Collective - Fiber Arts! -Teens, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m. A relaxed space for those who like to keep their hands busy: knitting, crocheting, embroidery or anything yarn-related. Beginners are absolutely welcome! Bring your current project or start something new while we chat, swap tips, eat snacks and unwind together. **MUST REGISTER**

The Dark & Stormy Book Club - Horror Book Club - Teens, Saturday, Aug. 15, 1 p.m. Love scary stories? Join our Teen Horror Book Club! Join us as we discuss "Honeysuckle and Bone" by Trisha Tobias. Come talk about what scared you most, what worked, and whether you'd survive the story yourself! **MUST REGISTER**

Bedford Branch Film Discussion -Adults, Saturday, Aug. 15, 2 p.m. Join us for a film screening and discussion presented through the free streaming service, Kanopy.

"Wade in the Water: A Journey into Black Surfing and Aquatic Culture" explores the neglected history of Black surfing's heritage by charting the origins of African aquatic culture and examining the evolution of Black surfing

through the modern day. Historical experts and community leaders resurrect the 1000-year-old Black surfing tradition, stirring the next generation of Black surfers. **MUST REGISTER**

Computer Basics -Adults, Wednesday, Aug. 19, 10 a.m. Learn the basics about computing devices, using a mouse and keyboard, and navigating the desktop environment. Computer settings and mobile devices will also be discussed. No prerequisites. **MUST REGISTER**

African American Authors Book Group, In-Person or Virtual —Adults, Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m. African American Authors Book Group meets the last Thursday of the month. All adults are welcome. August Title: "It Was the Way She Said It: Short Stories, Essays, and Wisdom" by Terry McMillian.

Canva Basics -Adults, Friday, Aug. 28, 10 a.m. Create designs and graphics for print or digital media with this free website. Prerequisite: Computer Basics or equivalent experience. Preferred: Account with Canva.com (bring your password!). **MUST REGISTER**

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Community police reports

(All information is preliminary and subject to change pending investigation.)

Garfield Heights Disorderly Conduct

On July 5, at 12:24 a.m., officers were dispatched to the Sunoco gas station at 5326 Turney Rd., for a disturbance between two males with handguns. One of the men was

trying to leave the gas station in a Subaru and was prevented when one of the officers blocked him in with his police cruiser and ordered him at gunpoint to get out of the car. He refused and was pulled out of the car and forcibly placed into handcuffs, after trying to bite of the officers. He suffered a minor abrasion to his head during the scuffle. Police observed a loaded extended magazine laying on the driver's side floor board, and a semi-automatic pistol was located on the back seat floorboard behind the front passenger seat under a grey hoodie with no live ammunition. The driver was checked and came back with no warrants and was legal to possess a handgun. The female passenger had a warrant from Bedford PD, which Bedford confirmed and came to the Sunoco station for a personal bond, which she was served when Bedford PD arrived on scene. She was given a courtesy ride to her home. The driver was taken to Marymount Hospital where he was checked out for the head abrasion and then discharged and taken to city jail. He was placed in a holding cell without incident and charged with disorderly conduct, obstructing official business, resisting arrest and open container citation.

Traffic Offense-OVI

•On July 6, about 8 p.m., officers were dispatched to I-480 west for a vehicle that had run off the roadway. They found the vehicle had crashed into the median divider and was facing west. They talked to the driver, who said as he approached the on-ramp he became distracted by his cellular phone and drove off the roadway toward the median. He said he tried to brake but it was already too late to avoid a collision. Because he smelled of an alcoholic beverage he was asked to submit to a field sobriety test to which he agreed. He declined evaluation or treatment by EMS. Based on the officer's observations, the driver was placed under arrest for suspicion of operating a vehicle impaired. He was transported to Valley View PD where he submitted to a breath test and had a breath alcohol concentration of 0.161. He was then taken to GHPD, where he was booked and given a court date at Garfield Heights Municipal Court.

•On July 9, about 10 p.m., an officer arrived at an apartment complex in the 4500 block of E. 104 St., for a report of a vehicle hitting the building. The officer observed a white Chevy with its front half inside the apartment complex. A female stood outside the car and admitted she was the driver. She told police she didn't know how she got there but said she was coming back from a friend's. EMS arrived to check on her and the officer noticed a smell of alcoholic beverage on her breath. She admitted to drinking that evening but didn't know how much. She was taken to MetroHealth Emergency and provided a blood sample collected by a nurse, which was taken back to GHPD to await transport for testing. The driver received citations for reckless operation, OVI and failure to control. She was not placed into custody at that time as she was under medical care.

Traffic Offense-Fleeing

On July 10, at 4:22 p.m., officers on patrol at Osborn Rd. and Cranwood Park Blvd., saw a silver Chevy Impala going east on Cranwood at what appeared to be a high rate of speed and reckless manner as the car turned south onto Osborn Rd. As the vehicle turned officers saw the driver throw an object out the window, which was later found to be a dangerous ordnance. The patrol car was close to the ordnance when it detonated as officers heard the loud explosion and felt the concussion of the blast which caused the patrol car to shake and vibrate. The Impala took off with police in pursuit, which at one point took them to the Super One Market, 4501 Lee Rd., in Cleveland. The Impala made a U-turn in the parking lot and continued to flee south on Lee Rd. Police were attempting to place their zone car into a position to try a PIT maneuver as the Impala continued fleeing south on Lee Rd. As the patrol car was maneuvering behind the Impala, the driver of the Impala put his vehicle in reverse and quickly accelerated, striking the zone car, which sustained minor damage to the driver's side headlight and push in the bumper area. The Impala sustained damage to the rear driver side tail light area. Both vehicles came to rest as a result of the collision near Lee Rd. and Glenpark Ave. The Impala driver then fled on foot south on Lee Rd. One of the officers gave chase while the other officer secured the Impala's passenger. The officer caught up to the driver, who actively resisted arrest until the officer performed a take down of the suspect. At this time several other Garfield Heights units arrived on scene to assist as did Cleveland police.

(Continued on Page 5)

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

By order of the Council of the City of Maple Heights, sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Agent, at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until 12:00 Noon, local time, on the 23rd day of July, 2026 for the **“MAPLE HEIGHTS LEE ROAD GATEWAY ENHANCEMENT SIGN PROJECT”** in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.

The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

Each bidder is required to furnish with its proposal, a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. Bid security furnished in Bond form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety. Each bid must be made upon the Proposal Form provided in the set of specifications and must be accompanied by a bank check or cashier's check drawn on a solvent bank in Cuyahoga County in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, or a bid bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the amount bid, as a guarantee that if said bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and a Surety Bond satisfactory to said City in an amount equal to 100% of the total bid will be furnished. Checks shall be made payable to the City of Maple Heights, Ohio.

Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

The Maple Heights Lee Road Gateway Enhancement Sign Project is partially funded by the Cuyahoga County Department of Development Block Grant Program. A bidder/contractor will be deemed committed to the Department of Labor's goals and timetables for the Cleveland, Ohio area as specified in the Notice of Requirements for Affirmative Action to ensure Equal Employment Opportunity Executive Order 11246 by submitting a properly signed bid. Each bidder must ensure that all employees and applicants for the employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or veteran status.

A copy of the Bid Specification package for the Maple Heights Lee Road Gateway Enhancement Sign Project will be available for review by all potential bidders at the offices of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development located at 2079 East Ninth Street., 7th floor office 7-303, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Small Business Enterprises (SBE's) are encouraged to participate on this project. The goal for SBE participation is 35% of total contract award for this project.

A Pre-bid Conference for the Maple Heights Lee Road Gateway Enhancement Sign Project will be held at 10:00 A.M. local time on the 16th day of July, 2026 in the Council Chambers at the Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137 for all interested parties. Information will be disseminated concerning proper completion of bid package documents.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, **“MAPLE HEIGHTS LEE ROAD GATEWAY ENHANCEMENT SIGN PROJECT”**

Dennis Kennedy
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
July 8, 2026
July 15, 2026

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American Red Cross

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Community police reports

(Continued from Page 4)

The Impala was searched and officers found seven dangerous ordnances on the rear floorboard behind the passenger seat. The passenger was released on scene.

The driver was placed under arrest for pending felony charges and booked and housed in GHPD jail. He was also issued traffic citations for running stop signs, reckless operation, driving left of center to pass, use of force. Referred to the Detective Bureau for further follow-up.

Obstructing Official Business

On July 12, at about 10:30 p.m., officers were called to the Gas USA, 4561 E. 131 St., for an ongoing disturbance of multiple juveniles being disorderly. While police were in the parking lot of Gas USA, a gas station clerk came running outside yelling, "He just threatened me with a gun," while pointing at a juvenile running from the entrance. A foot pursuit of the male juvenile ensued and the suspect was apprehended and placed in handcuffs in the backyard of a home in the 13200 block of Rexwood Ave. He was searched but no firearm was found on him. The youth was taken to city jail and booked. An officer returned to the gas station and spoke with the clerk, who said the juvenile detained had come into the store minutes before with multiple other juveniles who were all stealing and the suspect juvenile tried to steal something out of the ice cream cooler. The clerk told him to put it back and leave the store which the suspect did. He then returned and the clerk again told him to leave. According to the clerk, the juvenile then began to reach for his waistband (a common place where weapons are kept) and told the clerk, "I'm going to put these bullets through you." The clerk, believing he was about to be shot, ran out of the store and yelled for police. The juvenile suspect was later released to his mother. She was issued a citation for failure to supervise and given a court date in Garfield Heights Municipal Court. The report was forwarded to the Detective Bureau for follow-up.

Call Crime Stoppers with anonymous tips

Crime Stoppers provides an anonymous telephone number, Text Tips and Web Tips to encourage citizens to volunteer vital information helpful to law enforcement agencies and can offer cash rewards.

The 24/7 hotline number, 216-252-7463, allows the caller to remain anonymous. The phone does not have a caller ID function and calls are not recorded.

Those with information can also text TIP657 plus your message to 274637, or can submit information online at www.25crime.com.

Emergency Shortage: Donors needed now to stop alarming drop in American Red Cross blood supply

The American Red Cross is declaring an emergency blood shortage as the blood supply fell nearly 25% in June. Blood donors are urgently needed to give now to help ensure patients receive lifesaving medical care without delay. The shortage is especially serious for platelets and types O positive and B negative blood.

A steep decline in blood donations since the end of May has created a growing gap between supply and patient need. Currently, Red Cross distributions to hospitals are nearly 3,500 units higher per week than expected at a time when hospitals often see higher demand for blood products during the height of trauma season. On top of that, busy schedules and the seasonal loss of school blood drives are driving the decline which could put patient care at risk if not reversed.

The most important way to help end the blood shortage is to book an appointment to give blood now by using the Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). As a thank-you, all who come to give through July 31, 2026, will receive a Fandango movie ticket by email (up to \$15 ticket price and fees). Additional details can be found at RedCrossBlood.org/July.

Blood supply misconceptions

Every donation is critical to rebuilding the nation's blood supply, yet many people may not realize the significant impact a single donation can have on patients in need. A recent Red Cross survey revealed a significant gap between public perception and the reality of the nation's blood supply.

Less than 1 in 5 respondents understood that blood cannot be stockpiled because it has a limited shelf life and must be continually replenished through volunteer donors.

Only about half believed it was very likely that they or someone close to them would need blood one day—even though someone in the U.S. receives a blood transfusion every two seconds.

"A readily available blood supply serves as the backbone of modern medicine. Without it, lifesaving treatments and critical access points to care are not possible," said Dr. Courtney Lawrence, medical director for the Red Cross.

To find a list of upcoming local blood drives, visit RedCrossBlood.org.

Taste of St. Casimir's

The annual Taste of Saint Casimir Polish Food Festival, 8223 Sowinski Ave., Cleveland, will be held on Saturday, July 25, from 2 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, July 26, from 12:30 to 7 p.m. As always, it offers live music, church tours, raffles and some of the best homemade Polish food and drink around, said festival organizers. This year it will feature some new treats to try for the very first time.

The festival weekend includes a 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday, as well as the regularly scheduled 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday; both will be in English and Polish. The church will be open throughout the festival and tours will be available.

LEGAL NOTICE

BEDFORD BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL HOLD A MEETING ON TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF BEDFORD CITY HALL AT 6:00 P.M. TO CONSIDER THE APPEAL OF THE FOLLOWING:

A. Paul Beegan is seeking a variance from parking requirements and proposes to have 4 parking spaces in the driveway located at 54 Thames Ave, Bedford, OH 44146.

Building Department's determination: Two parking spaces were present and were eliminated. Two spaces are required to be covered and 2 spaces may be uncovered per:

1957.05 Parking INTENSITY OF USE Single and 2-family Dwellings Required Parking spaces - 1 inside and 1 outside per dwelling unit

B. Joel Levis is seeking a variance to reduce the required side yard setbacks located at 377 Hubbell Circle, Bedford, OH 44146.

Building Department's determination: The applicant proposes a single family house within the R2 PRD zoning district. It is the Building Commissioner's determination that the PRD guidelines are for cluster home construction. This is a stand-alone single family build that can follow the standard R2 zoning setbacks.

- The proposed setbacks are 4.1 ft on the north side and 4.3 ft on the south side.

- In an R2 district, minimum side yard setback is 8 ft. Minimum sum total side yard setback is 20 ft. This means one side has to be a minimum 8 ft and the other 12 ft.

- In PRD Districts, side yard setbacks are 15 ft between buildings, no minimum distance from property lines.

- A variance to reduce side yard setbacks by 3.9 ft on the north side and 7.7 ft on the south side.

C. Joel Levis is seeking a variance to reduce the required side yard setbacks located at 389 Hubbell Circle, Bedford, OH 44146.

Building Department's determination: The applicant proposes a single family house within the R2 PRD zoning district. It is the Building Commissioner's determination that the PRD guidelines are for cluster home construction. This is a stand-alone single family build that can follow the standard R2 zoning setbacks.

- The proposed setback is 7.3 ft on the south side and 8.3 on the north side.

- In an R2 district, minimum side yard setback is 8 ft. Minimum sum total side yard setback is 20 ft. This means one side has to be a minimum 8 ft and the other 12 ft.

- In PRD Districts, side yard setbacks are 15 ft between buildings, no minimum distance from property lines.

- A variance to reduce the south side yard setback by 4.4 ft.

ATTENTION: THE APPLICANT'S ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY, AND FAILURE TO ATTEND WILL RESULT IN DENIAL.

Tracy M. Simons

Clerk of Council

Published in The Neighborhood News: 7/15/26

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Advertising deadline is 5:00 p.m. Mondays. Advertising Display rate is \$12.00 per column inch (minimum \$48).

Business Directory deadline is 5:00 p.m. Fridays. Ads must print for 4 weeks. Advertising rate is \$12 per column inch (minimum \$24).

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Deadline for cancellations is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Save your cancellation number in case an adjustment on your bill is necessary. Ads placed for only one week cannot be canceled.

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Advertisers should check the first insertion of their ad. The Neighborhood News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Upon noting an error, the advertiser should call the Advertising Department at (216) 441-2141. Adjustments are made to the degree the error reduced the value of the ad. Publisher shall not be liable for any costs or damages if for any reason it fails to publish an advertisement.

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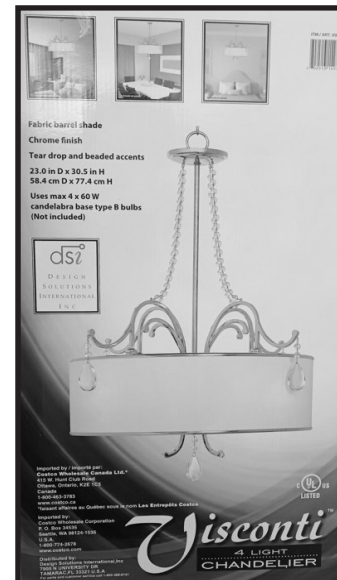
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Tickets go on sale Aug. 1st for Cleveland Catholic Women's 2026 Day of Reflection in Independence

The Cleveland Catholic Women's Day of Reflection will return on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026, gathering women from across Northeast Ohio for a day of prayer, formation and fellowship.

This year's event, hosted by Theology of the Body Cleveland (TOB CLE), is themed "May the Lord Give You Peace." It will take place at the Holiday Inn, 6001 Rockside Rd., in Independence. The theme draws inspiration from the greeting St. Francis of Assisi offered to those he encountered and a blessing he urged others to share.

An inspiring lineup of speakers and musicians will guide participants through prayer, reflection and renewal. This includes keynote speaker Immaculée Ilibagiza, who survived the 1994 Rwandan genocide by hiding in a 3 ft. x 4 ft. bathroom for 91 days with seven other women. Her autobiography, "Left to Tell," has sold more than two million copies and is in the process of becoming a major motion picture.

Mother Natalia of Christ the Bridegroom Monastery will start the day by leading those gathered into a deeper encounter with Christ's peace. Mother Natalia co-hosts the "What God is Not" podcast and is a frequent guest on "Pints with Aquinas."

The event will also welcome Fr. Damian Ference, Vicar for Evangelization of the Diocese of Cleveland, who will celebrate Mass, and Fr. John Paul Kuzma, Capuchin friar, who will serve as the afternoon speaker. Fr. John Paul serves on the formation staff for the Capuchin Formation Program and as spiritual director at Borromeo Seminary, Cleveland.

Music and Adoration will be led by Taylor Tripodi, a Catholic singer-songwriter. Taylor has been recognized as one of the top 30 Catholic musicians globally with her music embraced by over 4 million listeners. Her reflections and blogs are featured on Ascension Press.

Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. The program begins at 9 a.m. with the welcome talk by Mother Natalia. Keynote speaker Immaculée Ilibagiza will present at 9:40 a.m. with Mass following at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon, during which time Confession will be available. The afternoon includes music and Adoration led by Taylor

Tripodi and the second talk by Fr. John Paul. The day concludes with a witness talk by Randi Blanton, and closing prayer at 3 p.m.

Tickets go on sale August 1st online at tobcle.org/ccw and are \$50 each with early bird pricing through August 15. Tickets will increase to \$55 each after August 15, until the event is sold out.

For more information visit tobcle.org/ccw.

Bedford Heights Council passes bills for road repairs

Bedford Heights Council met on Tuesday, July 7, and passed two ordinances, one for concrete repair and the other for asphalt repair.

Council accepted the bid of T.C. Construction Co. of Willoughby Hills, in an amount not to exceed \$83,000, for the 2026 Concrete Repair Program.

The bid of Phillips Paving, LLC, of Chagrin Falls, was accepted by council for the 2026 Asphalt Repair Program, in an amount not to exceed \$44,650.

Mayor Phil Stevens, chairman of the city's Planning Commission, announced its next meeting for Tuesday, July 14, at 5 p.m.

G.H. names contest winner

Congratulations to the Garfield Heights Salon & Barber-shop Appreciation Month winner, Barb Dines!

Barb, a proud Garfield Heights resident, entered by submitting her salon receipts and sharing her love of getting her nails done. Thanks to her participation, she's the lucky winner of a \$150 Giant Eagle & GetGo gift card!

Thank you to everyone who participated by supporting our local salons and barbershops. We appreciate you for shopping local and helping our community thrive!

(Posted last Thursday on city of Garfield Heights Facebook page)

Square Dancing demo

The Brecksville Squares Dance Club invites everyone to a lively square dance demo featuring colorful costumes, a live caller, and an opportunity to start square dancing yourself! The event will be held on Friday, July 24, 12:30-1:30 p.m., at the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Dr., Independence.

Admission to this event is free but participants must RSVP in advance. Reserve your spot online at: <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/15749385>, or register in person at the Independence Branch Library. You do not need a partner to participate, and all are invited to join in the fun!

This program will be repeated at the Brecksville Branch Library on Wednesday, Aug. 5, from 7 to 8 p.m.

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